

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2006-3-E - ORDER NO. 2006-438

JULY 26, 2006

IN RE: Duke Power Company LLC d/b/a Duke	)	ORDER GRANTING
Energy Carolinas, LLC – Annual Review of	)	ADMISSION PRO HAC
Base Rates for Fuel Costs.	)	VICE

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Richard L. Whitt, Esquire, on behalf of Duke Power Company LLC d/b/a Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke Energy Carolinas) for admission of Lara Simmons Nichols to practice before the Commission *pro hac vice*. Mr. Whitt petitions for Lara Simmons Nichols to appear before the Commission as counsel for Duke Energy Carolinas in the hearing for Docket No. 2006-3-E regarding the annual review of base rates for fuel costs of Duke Energy Carolinas.

Ms. Nichols serves as counsel for Duke Energy Corporation with offices located at 526 S. Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina, and is a member in good standing of the bar of North Carolina according to the application. Additionally, Ms. Nichols has included an affirmation that she will comply with the applicable statutes, laws, and rules of the State of South Carolina, that she is familiar with and will comply with the South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct, and that she will submit to the jurisdiction of the South Carolina courts and Commission on Lawyer Conduct.

Local counsel of record associated with Ms. Nichols is Richard L. Whitt of Austin, Lewis & Rogers, P.A., 508 Hampton Street, Suite 300, Columbia, South Carolina.

It appears to this Commission that the proper *pro hac vice* application of Lara Simmons Nichols has been filed with the South Carolina Supreme Court and that the necessary affirmation has been made. The Deputy Clerk for Bar Admissions has certified receipt of the filing and that the filing fee has been paid. We believe that Ms. Nichols meets the qualifications for admission to practice before the Commission at the hearing in Docket No. 2006-3-E *pro hac vice* and that she should be so admitted.

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Lara Simmons Nichols, Esquire, is a member in good standing of the bar of North Carolina and through request of local counsel, Richard L. Whitt, has moved for her *pro hac vice* admission to practice before the Commission at the hearing on Docket No. 2006-3-E.

2. Proper application has been filed, the filing fee has been paid, and the necessary affirmation has been made, as required by SCACR 404.

3. Ms. Nichols has associated South Carolina counsel.

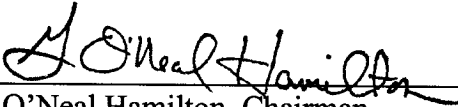
4. The request for *pro hac vice* admission in this proceeding should be granted.

**ORDER**

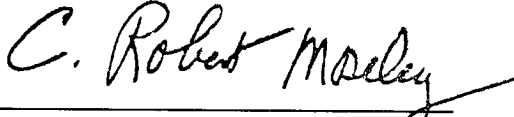
The request of Richard L. Whitt, Esquire, for *pro hac vice* admission of Lara Simmons Nichols, Esquire, to practice before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina at the hearing on Docket No. 2006-3-E is granted.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
C. Robert Moseley, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)